



# INSPIRED

Alumni News from Cardijn  
ISSUE 06, 2023



# Contents



<b>2</b>	<b>Meet Cardijn's 7th Principal Steve Byrne</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Alumni on the emergency frontline</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>2023 Year 12 Results</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Inspired LIVE</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Vintage Conversations: A reunion with Jacob Barter '11 at Noori Wine Bar</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Class of 1993 Reunion</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>The resilience of travel with Marie Sulda '98</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Class of 2003 Reunion</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>2023 Year 12 Graduation</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Class of 2013 Reunion</b>
		<b>24</b>	<b>This Year In Social...</b>
		<b>26</b>	<b>Dux Assembly Speech</b>
		<b>26</b>	<b>Alumni Celebrations</b>
		<b>27</b>	<b>Old Collegians Sport</b>



## **INSPIRED Magazine** **ISSUE 06, 2023**

### **Contributors:**

Jacob Barter, Rachael Brockenbrow, Steve Byrne, Connie Dutton, Nimali Englehardt, Ashlee Jones, Rosemary McDonnell, Leyla Mesecke, Matthew Milovanovic, Emma-May Palmer, Chantelle Skinner, William Seddon-Quigley, Marie Sulda, Michal Wozniak

**Design:** Phil Gibson - ApplePi Design

### **Editorial Enquiries:**

Marketing & Communications, Cardijn College  
Email: [marketing@cardijn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:marketing@cardijn.catholic.edu.au)  
Telephone: +61 8 8392 9500

### **Cardijn College**

PO Box 438  
Noarlunga Centre, SA 5168  
Copyright © 2023 Cardijn College  
[cardijn.catholic.edu.au](http://cardijn.catholic.edu.au)

Views expressed by contributors in INSPIRED are not necessarily endorsed by Cardijn College. No responsibility is accepted by the College, editor or printer for accuracy of information contained in either the text or advertisements. Material may be reproduced without permission from INSPIRED with acknowledgment of its origin.



[facebook.com/CardijnCollege](https://facebook.com/CardijnCollege)



[instagram.com/cardijncollege](https://instagram.com/cardijncollege)



[linkedin.com/school/4681717/](https://linkedin.com/school/4681717/)

# Steve Byrne



## Meet Cardijn's 7th Principal Steve Byrne

INSPIRED caught up with Cardijn Principal Steve Byrne as he reflected on his first year in the role and shared some of the exciting plans to celebrate Cardijn's 40th anniversary in 2024.

**Reflecting on your first year as the principal at Cardijn College, what were the highlights and significant achievements that stand out the most?**

The sense of 'Welcome!' was outstanding. I was made to readily feel a member of the Cardijn community and there were numerous significant achievements across the year. I think a glance through 'Cardijn Connect' is evidence of the quality and diverse learning experiences Cardijn students embrace.

**What changes or initiatives have been introduced to enhance the pastoral, academic or extracurricular offerings at the school, and what outcomes have you observed?**

Well, the 'Cardijn Cardijn' Campus at Noarlunga Downs is now the Marian Campus. Each Campus has developed plans to further improve their educational programs and to enhance their learning environments. A College-wide focus has been on resetting standards and expectations as we manage a rapid increase in enrolments over the past five years - 60% in fact! Pastoral, curriculum

and operational structures and procedures have been reviewed and refined. It's been a busy year!

**Looking ahead to 2024, what are your goals and priorities in Cardijn's 40th anniversary year?**

Having created a sense of 'Order, System, Method' the focus will be on the consolidation of the 2023 initiatives, the collaborative development of the Cardijn Strategic Plan - 'Towards 2027!' and some major announcements early in 2024 in regard to the development of the Galilee South and Marian West campuses. Stay tuned!

**How is Cardijn planning to celebrate this significant milestone with the school community?**

The focus will be on further developing the Cardijn Family Spirit with an invitation to come 'Back to Cardijn' to a family based celebration. There is memorabilia in the pipeline as well as a commemorative publication. We are also considering a social media 'Cardijn Memory Board' whereby memories can be posted from across the last four decades and widely shared. Of course, we have MANY photos to share to spark these memories!



**What is the most unexpected or fun Cardijn tradition that you have become most fond of?**

‘Athon Day’ was a hoot! I loved the way the Year 12s led the day, even had a dance, and despite the weather and lack of a space for the Marian Campus to gather, fun was had by all!

‘Book Week’ is always fun in a primary setting and the parade at Galilee was special! Such a good celebration.

The Graduation at Marcellin was special as it was apparent to the nervous Marcellin Class of 2023 that it meant something of significance to them! The fact that 90% of them had already secured apprenticeships, employment and one heading to University makes Marcellin unique by way of its successful pathways for its students. Our Marcellin families and friends also filled the Hopgood Theatre and set a new benchmark for Graduations. The Marian Graduation was also a great family night!

**Where is your favourite spot in the school and why does it hold a special place in your heart?**

I need to be diplomatic here and name one from each campus. I love Galilee’s indoor/outdoor learning spaces and the general connection across the campus to the environment. I tend to walk a few laps to soak it all in when I’m on campus.

At Marcellin I tend to drop into the trade training areas as they are such special learning environments which provide the technical and theoretical components of the Marcellin courses. The recently refurbished Automotive and Engineering Workshops are state-of-the-art and will serve the students well into the future.

At Marian, any vantage point overlooking the surrounding views is uplifting: the sand dunes and gulf to the west and the Southern Vales and hills provide us all with such a pleasant place to be each day.

**How do you see the school’s values and mission evolving in the coming years, building upon the foundation laid over the last four decades?**

Well, funny you should ask! This morning the College Executive (Heads of Campus, Business Manager, Deputy and Principal) met at the Christies Beach SLSC to commence the drafting process for the next Strategic Plan – ‘Towards 2027!’. It will be shared and collaborated on during the first half of 2024. We are hoping to capture the essence of Cardijn’s core values, its mission and spirit and to clarify its purpose in simple, accessible language and initiatives.

Key to this process are the charisms of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn and St Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers. Whilst Joseph Cardijn’s ethos grows from our College motto of ‘See, Judge, Act!’, Marcellin’s stems from Mary’s way of listening, pondering and acting – some obvious similarities for us to draw on here!

The vision, mission and values we develop in 2024 will have their foundations from Cardijn’s humble beginnings under Br Walter Smith but with a contemporary influence to reflect the Cardijn of this era.

*The focus will be on further developing the Cardijn Family Spirit with an invitation to come ‘Back to Cardijn’ to a family based celebration.*

# 2023 Year 12 Results

## Dux of the College

99.35  
ATAR



### Lachlan Schuetze

Integrated Learning (RE)	A
Biology	A+
Chemistry	A+
English Literary Studies	A
Physics	A
Specialist Mathematics	A

## Proxime Accessit

98.30  
ATAR



### Majd Karem

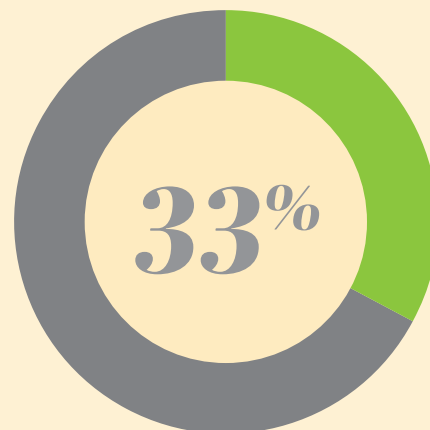
Integrated Learning (RE)	A
Biology	A
Chemistry	A
Mathematical Methods	A
Physics	A
Research Project	A

## The 90s Club

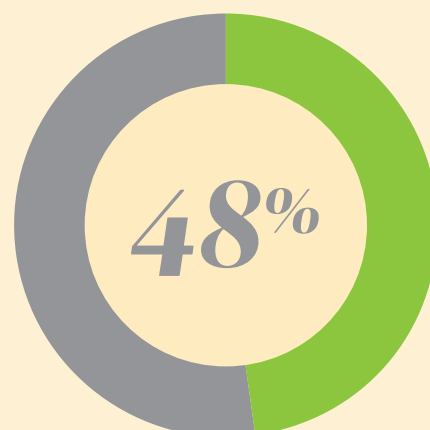
Lachlan Schuetze	99.35
Majd Karem	98.30
Tamar Stacey	97.75
Lilly Barker-Robertson	96.80
Caitlin Kennedy	95.95
Eleonora Merlotti	95.60
Hannah Lewis	95.50
Aden Croser	93.50
Guilherme Oliveira	92.30
Emma Costello	91.95
Alexandra Meneses	91.75
Jaimee Mullins	91.15
Ved Kulkarni	90.90
Abby Dittmar	90.55
Hudson Priori	90.20
Kahlia Taylor	90.05



SACE Completion



of students achieved results in the A Band



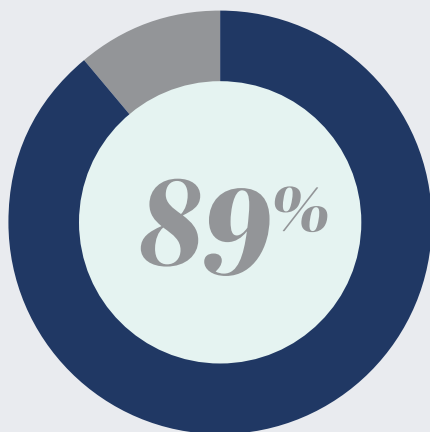
of students graduated **DUAL CERTIFIED** achieving the SACE + a VET qualification

# 2023 Year 12 Results

## 13 Merits

STUDENT	SUBJECT	TEACHER
Aden Croser	Integrated Learning (Religious Education)	Caroline Cienciala
Nicole D'Cruz (Year 11)	Research Project	Abbey Miller
Isabel Englehardt (Year 11)	Research Project	Sophia Dimitropoulos
Isabel Grimwood (Year 11)	Research Project	Sophia Dimitropoulos
Nia Hannon	Food & Hospitality	Carlie Sherwood
Ruby Jones (Year 11)	Research Project	Kevin McCarthy
Caitlin Kennedy	English	Abbey Miller
Jessica King (Year 11)	Research Project	Kevin McCarthy
Grace Kirk (Year 11)	Research Project	Kevin McCarthy
Natasha Ortiz (Year 11)	Research Project	Melissa Loy
Lachlan Schuetze	Biology	Anne-Marie Taylor
Elicia Stead (Year 11)	Research Project	Melissa Loy
Kayla Talbot (Year 11)	Research Project	Abbey Miller

## Marcellin Campus



**Graduating with an apprenticeship**  
(national average less than 5%)

### Apprentice of the Year



#### Liam Toft

Liam is studying a Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology (Heavy Diesel Fitter) and is employed as an apprentice with Cross Diesel Services.



**SACE Completion**  
(Marcellin Campus)

## Capacity Enrolments for 2024!



### Who/what do you remember most about your time at Cardijn/Marcellin?

Lunchtime at Cardijn is what I remember most. Playing stacks on near the gym or putting together some sort of game on the oval. Also the muffins from the canteen were all time.

### What pathway did you take after school?

I commenced and completed a trade before making a switch to working overseas in the snow fields.

After that I travelled through the Americas and came home and started studying Architecture. Whilst studying I needed to pay my rent so I started bartending and the rest sorta speaks for itself. I've just opened a bar and I'm loving it.

### What inspired you to open a wine & cocktail bar?

Hospitality and the general lack of something 'boujee fun' down south. Not that we try to be boujee at all but after working in bars all over the place it was so evident that we had the chance to have our very own bar, built for the South by the South.

### How did your time at Cardijn influence you, in your career and life?

The people and places around me. I'd certainly not be as fortunate if I were to have not met the specific people I was put alongside in my classroom/year level. Having a good place to mix with everyone helped me get my 'zoomies' out a little and foster some ideas that I'd end up shooting for in the future

# Vintage Conversations: A Reunion with Jacob Barter '11 at Noori Wine Bar

We recently had the pleasure of catching up with Jacob Barter, a familiar face from the Class of 2011. Nestled within the heart of Port Noarlunga, Noori Wine Bar stands as both a testament to Jacob's entrepreneurial spirit and a haven for wine enthusiasts. Join us as we uncork the tales of his journey since school and discover the unique blend of passion and dedication that fills each glass at Noori.





## What have been your proudest moments and highlights since opening Noori?

My gosh, staying open?! I joke, sorta. I had a chat with another bar owner in the city last week - another level to my spot, royalty in my eyes. He said that 'it's crazy that to say that you've made it in this industry, just means that you survived'. That's such a true thing. So yes, being here more than a year now fills me with joy. Also, the takeover at Hains & Co pouring Cristal by the glass was pretty wild.

## Tell us about your passion for hospitality/wine.

I love it, I found it when I needed it most and it brought so much joy to my life that it was hard not to gravitate towards it. It's a love of service and creating an energy that people connect with.

## What advice would you give to current students about following their career dreams and ambitions?

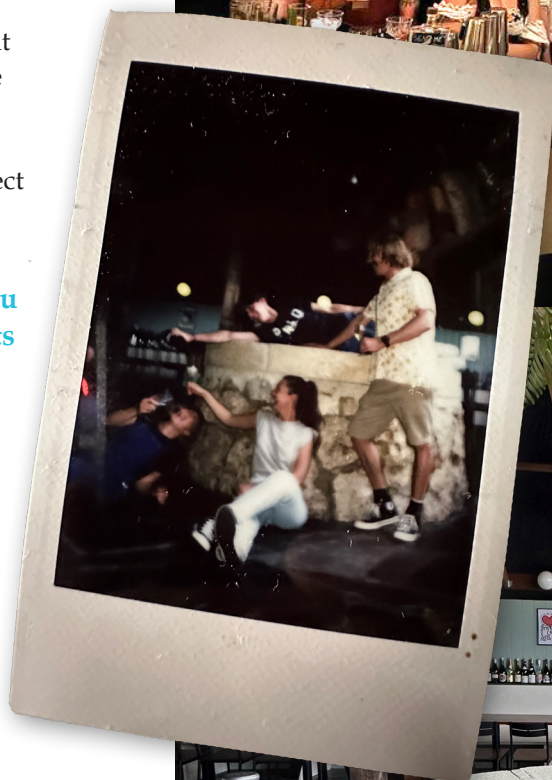
Just lean into what you love, it's okay to change a million times, your North Star isn't always the brightest. Just keep looking and you'll find it. Even better when it finds you.

## Any other news to share?

Just come soak up the Midcoast for all it's worth, it's delivering so, so much lately.

Noori on the Midcoast is located at shop 2/20 Gawler St, Port Noarlunga

[www.noorionthemicoast.com.au](http://www.noorionthemicoast.com.au)





# The resilience of travel with Marie Sulda '98

From Cardijn College classrooms to a dynamic career in the travel industry, Marie Sulda's journey unfolds with the twists and turns of life, marked by adventures, challenges and the profound impact of unforeseen events. In the face of personal loss and global upheaval in 2020, Marie's resilience takes centre stage, leading to the birth of WeExplored. Marie unveils the profound connection between exploring the outer world and delving into life's inner journeys, shaping a new path of purpose and exploration.

38 years ago, my parents grabbed backpacks, a five year old and a three year old and proceeded to travel through Europe for 12 weeks. At 43 the memories of this linger in my mind, a grainy picture of sitting on a plane, a memory of a bag of coloured easter eggs on the windowsill of our hostel room on Easter morning. The trip laid unseen foundations that enabled me to understand from a very young age, that it takes all people to make the world go round and that the world was always bigger than the schoolyard.

Due to this early exposure to travel, there has always

been a sense of curiosity that comes with me. I often reflect on the many moments in my Cardijn College Year 12

English class, where Mrs Paul would encourage

us to explore the texts for meaning. She gave us permission to challenge our default point of view. As we became flexible in our thinking, we were able to appreciate multiple perspectives, like adventurers of our own minds.

Mr Easlea encouraged us through Art and Design to explore and imagine new landscapes, and Ms Botha helped me to put context to the Europe I had seen earlier in life, in Modern European History Class.

When I left Cardijn, it seemed natural to continue the exploration and start a career in Tourism, so after a 12 month gap year in the UK, I started as a Travel consultant for STA Travel in 2001. The Travel industry is such an exciting place, there is never a dull moment. It requires you to always have a level of empathy, acceptance and the ability to quickly pivot, when you are at the whim of world events, like wars, volcanoes, tsunamis and bird flu.

After time at STA Travel and then working with one of Australia's best travel agencies for eight years, I decided to create a travel company of my own, that allowed myself and the other agents the flexibility they needed to look after their families and themselves, whilst working. We enjoyed a wonderful five years of growth, and countless amazing family adventures, until 2020 arrived and the borders started to close due to Covid. We knew it was going to be a long time before anyone was able to work in travel again and the entire industry was forced to reinvent their careers within weeks.



As inconvenient as this was, family and health were the most important things to me and I accepted this fate, as we had done so many other times in the industry before and we started the motions required to facilitate \$5million in refunds. This event became even more insignificant, as a few months later, we lost our beautiful daughter unexpectedly to an AVM. You can never really know what you would do, you think there is no way you can survive something like this, to lose such a great love. And I don't even know, to this day, whether I would call it surviving, more like life finds a way to sprout new tendrils around the missing, that is always there.

After years of feeling it all and finding our way through the winding world of grief, a new path slowly became visible, one that would enable me to take the wonders of travel and a new understanding of life's inner journeys.

I had been studying a Diploma of Counselling and working part time at Fleurieu Counselling and Wellness, when the idea to merge the concepts of self-discovery and travelling within, with the transformational qualities of travel. It was then that the previous travel company Kaleidoscopic Travel was rebranded to WeExplored.

WeExplored offers carefully curated family adventures, as we believe that getting away from the everyday, can help build bonds between family members



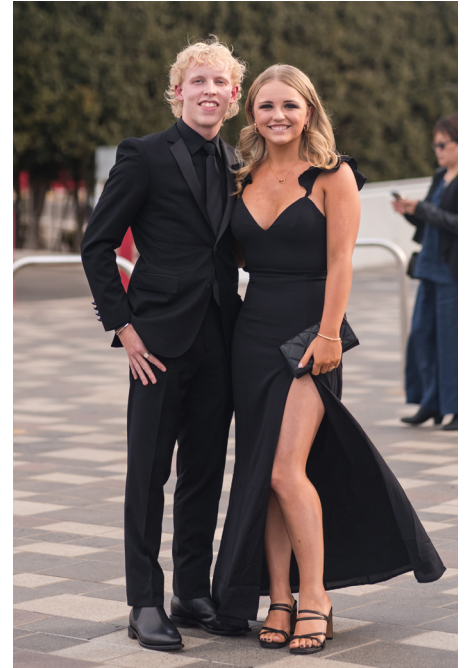
that become core memories. It will also be delivering wellbeing retreats and adventures in 2024. For those looking to overcome something specific, whether it is building resilience, or overcoming anxiety, we have a combination of counselling sessions teamed with an adventure at the end as a personal goal to achieve. It can be as simple as a local weekend away to an overseas destination.

Travel can be the catalyst for meaningful change, it takes you out of the everyday and gives

you a chance to slow down. Our purpose is to explore ourselves, explore together, explore the world and explore the universe. We will continue to connect to this ethos as we create more retreats, experiences and holidays that help individuals and groups to achieve this on a personal level. We look forward to working with any families or staff from Cardijn for their next adventure!

[www.weexplored.com](http://www.weexplored.com)







# Alumni on the emergency frontline

Discover some remarkable individuals among Cardijn's alumni as we delve into the stories of graduates who have chosen careers in the emergency services. From firefighters and paramedics to police officers, nurses and doctors, these dedicated individuals have embraced roles that demand courage, quick thinking and unwavering commitment. **INSPIRED** shines a light on the unique journeys of these alums who navigate the frontlines, showcasing their resilience, leadership, the invaluable impact they make in times of crisis and their selfless contributions to the safety and well-being of our communities.

## Leyla Mesecke '20

After graduating, I enrolled straight into a Bachelor of Nursing at Flinders University where I then proceeded to complete only two years of my three-year degree. I know what you are probably thinking... why didn't you just finish the degree?

Well, it was during my third nursing placement where I quickly came to the conclusion that I only ever wanted to wipe my own bottom (or that of my future children) and thus realised that unlike the absolutely incredible nurses that are already out there, I most certainly did not have the stomach for such a career. However, as that door shut, another opened, and I had another career pathway calling my name.

On the 3rd of February 2023, my career with SAPOL officially began. As my Cardijn teachers will likely attest, I have always had an authoritative and strong minded approach to life, traits that were causal factors for multiple disciplinary visits to

my teachers' desks. However, these predisposed personality traits in conjunction with the abundance of values and ethics instilled into my ethos through my schooling at Cardijn College have enabled me to not only make it through the various theoretical and physical assessments for my overall acceptance into the SAPOL Academy but has also enabled me



to quickly find my feet as a Police Officer within South Australia.

I have encountered many obstacles in my life thus far but my biggest obstacle would have been myself. There were many times I would become overwhelmed with the journey of life, feeling as though the reward was so far away. This dates back to how I felt during my schooling, at times it felt like the study and assignments had no ending. During my time at the academy, time management became the biggest hurdle. Having to study, complete assignments, practicals and meet physical standards, but it was all part of the process of becoming the police officer I had always wanted to be. I eventually did get to the end, of course there were challenging moments but through resilience,

dedication and support I made it. School is much the same, it's a journey but it's not one that lasts forever. The endless nights of study and the time spent on assignments are all part of the bigger picture. Be resilient, be dedicated, be kind to yourself and you can achieve absolutely anything you put your mind to.



## Dr Michal Wozniak '91

I am currently the Director of the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program and holding the position of Senior Lecturer in the College of Medicine and Public Health at Flinders University. My journey began when I joined Cardijn College in Year 10 back in 1989, and I proudly graduated as the Dux of School in 1991. Subsequently, I pursued my Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Adelaide, completing my degree in 1998.

Following my formal education, I immersed myself in various medical disciplines, including emergency medicine and anaesthesia. In 2004, I embarked on the path of becoming a rural general practitioner and achieved the Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners in 2006. While maintaining my interest in acute care medicine, I found myself increasingly drawn to the transformative power of medical education.

This interest led me to actively engage in healthcare simulation and clinical skills teaching at both Flinders University and the University of Adelaide over the next decade. In the realm of medical education, I have been fortunate to contribute innovatively. I have authored and co-authored medical education modules and handbooks for Sturt Fleurieu General Practice Education and Training (now GPEX), including works such as 'ProStart Emergency' and 'ProStart Anaesthesia.' Additionally, I have played a role as a medical consultant on various medical equipment designs that have received prestigious design awards.

My deep-seated passion for educating and training the next generation of doctors has propelled me to my current senior leadership position at Flinders University. I am dedicated to fostering a dynamic and enriching learning environment for aspiring medical professionals.



# Rosemary McDonnell (nee McPeake) '92

I joined Dublin CFS Brigade in December of 2002. I was accepted and given the training to help my community in firefighting and road crash rescue. I gained many more skills, including breathing apparatus for structure fires and chainsaw for other rescues. I became captain of my Brigade in 2015 and currently still hold this position. I am most proud of being given the opportunity to volunteer as a level 2 Operations Officer in incident management. This has given me experience in large-scale incidents, including interstate deployments.

Becoming a volunteer firefighter has been extremely rewarding. It has given me a confidence I never knew was there.



Dublin CFS volunteers (from left) Janet Jenkin, Caroline McKee, Rachael McRostie and Emma Woodroffe with captain Rosemary McDonnell. The girls attended a house fire at Wild Horse Plains last week.

Five women fronted for the Dublin CFS brigade last week to attend a house fire at Wild Horse Plains. The brigade trains a high percentage of women volunteering.

At the moment, we've got quite a few female members and more wanting to join as well, which is fantastic," she said.

With Rosemary at the helm, she felt it was possible women felt more comfortable joining the brigade.

PHOTO: LISA SCHULZ



# Ashlee Jones '16

I graduated from Cardijn in 2016 and went straight into nursing at Flinders University. I performed highly in my studies and was lucky enough to receive two graduate position offers. I decided to complete my graduate nurse transition program at Calvary in 2021 and have found my niche in orthopaedic nursing since. I love orthopaedic nursing as it's an area where nurses have the ability to make a big impact on a patient's recovery. I like how vast the area

is: looking after the young after a sporting injury, middle aged having elective joint replacements to improve their mobility, through to the elderly who have fallen and broken their hip. I enjoy seeing patients get their independence back. I'm now a clinical nurse in orthopaedics and value working within a supportive and fun allied health team, and find fulfilment getting to pass on my knowledge and support to others.



# Chantelle Skinner (nee Puliatti) '05

After graduating from Cardijn in 2005, I pursued a career in Paramedics at Flinders University. I completed my studies in 2008 and embarked on what has been, for me, the most rewarding and fulfilling 15 years I could have hoped for. I have been privileged to help people through their most vulnerable circumstances, to support the birth of new lives and to comfort those at the end of their time. In one shift, you can feel a spectrum of emotions. You can celebrate with one patient, and then experience complete devastation with the next. The biggest attraction for me is the unpredictable nature that comes with being a paramedic. I love arriving to work with no indication of where I am going or who I might meet. The variety that Paramedics affords is like no other. My sister Monique, also a Cardijn graduate, is a paramedic too. It has been fun to work shifts together, being paid to catch up and share experiences with her. We even helped at the birth a baby together!

I returned to Flinders Uni in 2013 and completed a Grad. Dip. in Intensive Care Paramedic studies, providing me the ability to help the more critically unwell in the community and offer clinical support to other paramedics. More recently I completed study to become an Extended Care Paramedic, which has a strong

focus on avoiding unnecessary presentations to emergency departments and treating people in their homes. I have really enjoyed the additional skillset and broader patient cross-section that this brings. I am beyond grateful to have a job that I enjoy as much as I do.



## Join the Cardijn College Board

The College is inviting expressions of interest from individuals passionate about contributing to the growth and development of Cardijn College to join our Advisory Board.

Your valuable insights and dedication will play a crucial role in shaping the future of our College as we approach our 40th anniversary in 2024.

Please complete the Expressions of Interest form available at:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/LsTeSHux41>



# INSPIRED LIVE

***'I learnt that you may not have it all figured out, you can begin to prepare for graduate life now, especially through the development of new skills.'***

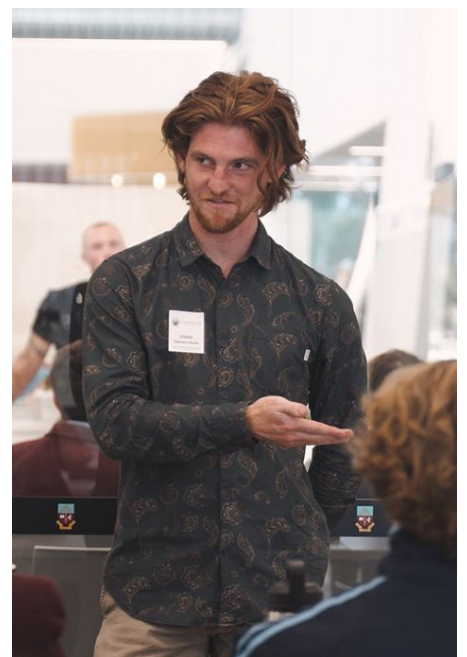
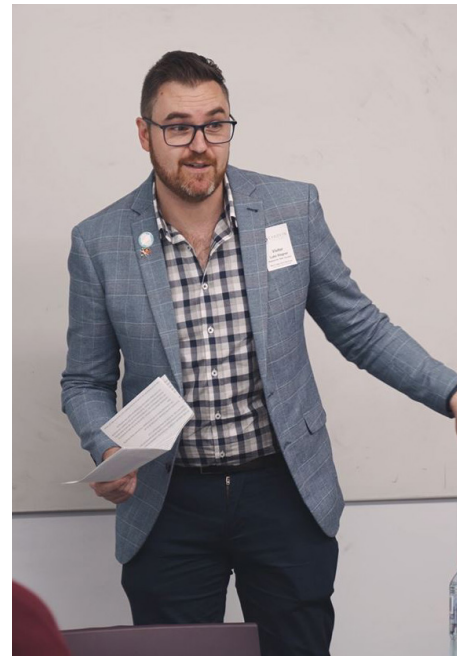


This year we hosted our inaugural event Inspired LIVE, a conference-style seminar aimed to inspire current students through alumni pathways.

We invited back 11 Cardijn College alums from varying industries to share their career journeys after high school.

The following alumni generously donated their time and knowledge:

- Luke Atkinson-Copley | Australian Public Service
- Renz Cawaling | STEM
- David Craggs, BioFit.ADL | Sport/Fitness
- Michael Genockey | Mining
- Monique Hapgood | Creativity and Arts
- Dannion Hards | Engineering/Space
- Councillor Lauren Jew, South Coast Ward, City of Onkaparinga | Community Services
- Reece Jongenelis | Vocational Trade
- Madeleine Pemberton | Public Policy
- Isaac Turner | Healthcare
- Matt Wadewitz, Aleda | Business





Cardijn College recently celebrated three class reunions, bringing together alumni from the classes of 1993, 2003 and 2013. The collective attendance at these reunions reached an impressive 151 individuals, marking the largest reunion turnout in Cardijn's history.

As we approach Cardijn College's 40th anniversary, it's important to keep your contact details updated to receive event invitations and updates. Expect fun, family celebrations, merchandise and surprises. This milestone promises to be a celebration like no other, providing a chance to reconnect with old classmates and staff. Stay tuned for more details as the anniversary nears, and stay connected to Cardijn.

[www.cardijn.catholic.edu.au/community/old-scholars](http://www.cardijn.catholic.edu.au/community/old-scholars)

# Class of 1993 Reunion

This reunion was looking like it was going to be a non event - but with the help of some old classmates help, along with the coordinator Emma-May, we were able to round up the troops and the enthusiasm on this momentous milestone - how could it be 30 years since we graduated from Cardijn College? And how could we possibly be that old??

On the day we ended up getting close to 50 attendees with a few teachers in the mix too and what an event it was!! The afternoon time slot was great allowing classmates to mingle rather than be seated and there were some great laughs about past times. On reflection it was just so wonderful to reconnect with all these gorgeous humans - all doing amazing things in their life. High school for everyone is a different experience, some of us are still lucky enough to call our classmates some of our best friends and for others it was an opportunity to reconnect - whatever your experience I urge you when your reunion comes up to go - a lot of us were a little on the fence about going but once we got there it was like no time had passed. It definitely left me feeling really grateful for my best friends, that are still in my life, today that I met on my very first day at Cardijn.

Nimali Englehardt '93





# Class of 2003 Reunion

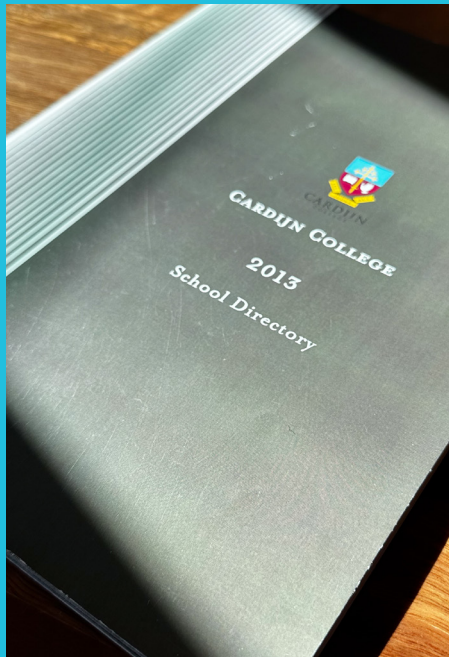
*The Class of 2003 celebrated their 20-year reunion in October. Although many people reported being anxious to attend, the turnout was excellent and as soon as we were all back together those anxious feelings disappeared. It was a great chance to celebrate all our achievements and hear everyone's highs and lows over the last 20 years. Standing at the reunion and seeing everyone's happy faces, hearing about their lives and having a good laugh about the good old days showed just how much our time at Cardijn had shaped us. The importance of being part of a community and the values and lessons we had all learnt at Cardijn were evident.*

*The event was planned perfectly with beautiful touches to remember not only our time at Cardijn but also the people we had lost along the way. It was clear that Cardijn holds a special place in all our hearts with many of us now having children of our own that attend. After talking to many people on the night it sounds like we are already looking forward to our 30-year reunion.*

*Rachael Brockenbrow '03*







# Class of 2013 Reunion

The Class of 2013 reunion was a nostalgic and heartwarming gathering that brought together old friends and classmates to reminisce about shared memories from Cardijn. Laughter echoed as stories from the past were exchanged, highlighting bonds that time couldn't diminish. The Marion Hotel provided a perfect backdrop for reconnecting and catching up on life's journeys, a decade on since graduation. Whether it was swapping career anecdotes or sharing personal milestones, the 2013 reunion fostered a sense of camaraderie that transcended the years.







# This Year In Social...



## January

To kick off 2023, our students collected their laptops via a seamless production line at the roundabout, ensuring all students went into the new school year with their tech essentials.



## February

Our Year 11 and 12 students were fortunate to spend the morning with Glen Gerreyn of The HopeFull Institute as they engaged in A Day of Hope - a life-changing social and emotional wellbeing seminar.

Glen shared his inspiring story and message of hope and positivity in a powerful seminar designed to leave students with a refreshed energy for life and a renewed understanding of their limitless potential.



## March

Adelaide Thunderbirds player Matilda Garrett made a guest appearance at our netball trials for the SA Catholic Secondary School Netball competition held in Terms 2 and 3.

Matilda assisted in the selection process for our extra-curricular teams and provided valuable feedback and advice. The girls loved having her out!



## April

Lest We Forget. Reflecting on ANZAC Day, Cardijn students stood with reverence at the Eternal Flame Memorial Gardens. College Captains, Mission Captains, and our Army Cadet Unit played integral roles, with Alex performing the anthem and the Cadet Unit forming an honour guard throughout the night. Special mention to our old scholar, Callum Barrott-Walsh ('22), who chaired the Youth Vigil Planning Committee in the South. Heartfelt thanks to all who represented Cardijn and paid tribute to our heroes.



## May

We celebrated old scholar Cameron Kirkland ('22) on his league debut for South Adelaide Football Club against Port Adelaide. In a twist of fate, he faced off against his good mate and fellow Cardijn Football Academy alum, Kyle Marshall ('22), drafted to Port Adelaide in the 2022 NAB AFL draft. Both were standout athletes in the Cardijn Football Academy, and Cameron even scored a goal in his debut. The Cardijn community is bursting with pride to see these two old scholars excelling at the elite level.



## June

Reconciliation Week kicked off at Marian Campus with a traditional smoking ceremony and dance performance.

We welcomed special guests from our First Nations community including Uncle Moogy, to perform the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, Joe Hayes played the didgeridoo (yidiki), while Major and Leanna Sumner taught students some traditional dance routines that were performed in front of the school.

# 2023



## July

Year 11 student Azi was awarded the 2023 Hadley's National Art Prize for senior secondary students, presented by the University of Tasmania.

Judging panel member Milan Milojevic said, "Azi's work is a beautifully executed painting that expresses special family memories of journeys at sea."



## September

Miss Underwood's Stage 1 Food & Hospitality students explored contemporary flavours and presentation methods to design, plan and create a signature dessert.

The dessert had to have four components and students needed to consider colour, flavour combination, texture and height in creating their desserts.



## November

We extended our heartfelt thanks to outgoing Board Chair, Mr Tim Ryan, for his exceptional leadership at Cardijn College. As a former College Captain, Tim's dedication has left an indelible mark on our school. Welcome to our new Board Chair, Mrs Kate Alldritt, bringing expertise and passion for education to this pivotal role. Exciting times ahead as we continue to flourish under Kate's guidance!



## December

We celebrated Aden Croser, the very worthy recipient of the 2023 Joseph Cardijn Award at this evening's Valedictory Ceremony.

We also acknowledged and congratulated Alexandra Meneses who was awarded the St Marcellin Champagnat Award for her service and leadership in our College community.



## August

Year 12 student Nic Paparella (right), was selected for the Australian U18 World Cup Baseball Squad! The U-18 Baseball World Cup took place in Taiwan, featuring top teams from around the globe. Nic and the Australian squad faced formidable opponents, including hosts Chinese Taipei and Mexico, in their first two games.



## October

Our senior jazz ensemble, Cardinal Blues, had the honour of performing at the Catholic Schools Music Festival.

Their rendition of the Brazilian classic, "Mas Que Nada," left a lasting impression on the audience at the Adelaide Festival Theatre.

For some Year 12 students, this event was a nostalgic journey, as they remembered their time in the primary school Festival Choir.

## Follow Cardijn on social media



[facebook.com/CardijnCollege](https://facebook.com/CardijnCollege)



[instagram.com/cardijncollege](https://instagram.com/cardijncollege)



[linkedin.com/school/4681717/](https://linkedin.com/school/4681717/)

# Dux Assembly Speech



**... if I could offer any advice to the younger students or any new students beginning at Cardijn in varying year levels, I'd say to get involved and give everything your 100%, whether that includes leadership, sports, music, drama, debating, cooking, or by simply being open to learning new skills and gaining knowledge.**

Good morning staff, distinguished guests, families, old scholars, and students of Cardijn College. It is an absolute pleasure to be stood here and I give my deepest thanks to have been invited back to speak to you all today.

First and foremost, I want to wish this morning's alumni my sincerest congratulations, what you have each achieved is phenomenal, and I hope we can all take this time to recognise, and reflect, on the sacrifice and determination that was required for you to be sat here today. To the families of those students being recognised for academic excellence, I also offer my congratulations to you, success is not an individual effort, and I am sure each of you played an integral role in your child's journey through Year 12. To Imogen, the DUX of 2022, congratulations, it is no small feat, and you should be extremely proud of your efforts and what you have achieved.

To introduce myself, my name is Matt, and I graduated from Cardijn in 2018. Looking around, a lot has changed in the short time I've been gone, from an array of new buildings, the introduction of Year 7 students, a new house and patron saint, as well as a new principal, just to name a few. During my time at Cardijn I was lucky enough to be placed into Kolbe House, and it is no secret that I, along with all of my peers, experienced feelings of intense anxiety of what was to come over the coming years.

Currently, these same feelings may be felt by many of the new Year 7 and 8 students, and I'll be the first to say, school can be incredibly daunting, from making new friends, to getting homework in on time, to realising how often you'll have to walk up and down stairs on a daily basis. Although, it is safe to say that the experiences I had at Cardijn, both good and bad, have helped shape me into the person I am today.

As such, if I could offer any advice to the younger students or any new students beginning at Cardijn in varying year levels, I'd say to get involved and give everything your 100%, whether that includes

by old scholar  
**Matt  
Milovanovic  
'18**

leadership, sports, music, drama, debating, cooking, or by simply being open to learning new skills and gaining knowledge. I can tell you, the connections, skills, and

experiences I gained at Cardijn were priceless and helped prepare me for life outside of school.

Since leaving Cardijn, I have completed a Bachelor of Paramedic Science at Flinders University and was lucky enough to commence employment with SA Ambulance Service in 2022. For just over a year, I have worked as a paramedic in the community, and it has been one of the most rewarding but also eye-opening experiences of my life. A usual shift for me involves arriving to station, doing a truck check, and then being at the will of my pager for the next 12 hours, so it's safe to say I've never had the same shift twice.

My Year 8 self would probably call current me crazy, as I never anticipated that I would be helping people on their worst day and doing the kind of work I do, from legally being able to “hoon”, to treating patients suffering from a cardiac arrest, heart attacks, strokes, and anaphylaxis, to managing traumatic injuries, those with severe pain, assisting in palliation and everything in between. It’s safe to say, working as a paramedic has provided me with some of the most unique opportunities and I have witnessed some extraordinary things, both pleasant and unpleasant. Regardless, there has been an abundance of lessons which I have learned, and I’ve picked a few to share with you all today.

Firstly, I’ve seen the rich, the poor, the lonely and the famous suffer from the same ailments. It shows that you never know what may be going on in somebody else’s life behind closed doors, so be kind to each other and reserve judgment. I believe this is particularly relevant to those in middle school, where we are often finding our feet and working out who we are.

Next, to those in or transitioning to senior school, it is an extremely stressful time, and that comes from someone who

has resuscitated patients in unfavourable environments. As such, be sure to take time out for yourself and maintain a healthy work/life balance, school is obviously important, but fostering relationships with your family and friends, and doing the hobbies you love shouldn’t be neglected.

Remember to always take the time to appreciate how far you’ve come, in terms of both your learning and growth as a person. You are all remarkable and your experiences at Cardijn are what you make it, so have the courage to challenge yourself, face your fears, whether that includes being involved on Athon Day, participating in Sports Day, or daring to get the grade you want in an assignment.

To the current Year 12 students, don’t put too much pressure on yourselves this year, as although challenging, it will be one of the most memorable of your life. Remember, your ATAR isn’t the be all or end all as it can often feel at times, especially when assignments are due and exams loom. Some of the best paramedics I know didn’t get into the degree on their first go, but in the grand scheme we all ended up on the same path.

This brings me to one of my



favourite quotes, and that is to remember that our journey often teaches us a lot about the destination. With this in mind, be sure not to compare yourself to others and accept that mistakes are part of the learning process. What I remember most from school is not the exam questions or my grade in that one Chemistry assignment, but the connections I made with friends, Chisholm always winning Sports Day and being called a scallywag by my house leader.

Lastly, and yes that means I am almost done for those beginning to yawn. But to the wonderful new alumni, today is your day, soak it all in, and appreciate your achievements, as getting your name on the honour board is no easy task and shows an unwavering commitment to persistence and excellence, with your success being just the tip of the iceberg. You may not have figured everything out, but that’s normal, as this is just the beginning. Remember that the Cardijn community is a family and you’ll always be welcomed back with open arms. Congratulations once again and I wish each of you all the best of luck.

Thank you



# Alumni Celebrations



## **Stacey Woods '03**

Stacey Woods was awarded the Volunteer Award at the Developmental Educators Australia Inc. Awards Night



## **Sisilina Saukuru '18**

Sisilina Saukuru was awarded the Dornford Group Community Appreciation Award



## **Nancy Beka '11**

Nancy Beka was shortlisted for the Australian Design Review 30 under 30. Nancy is a distinguished graduate of architecture and one of the directors at Studio Edwards – a dynamic cross-disciplinary design studio. Nancy has made significant contributions across architecture, interior design, and furniture and product design.



## **Stephanie Fuller '08**

Stephanie won the the Photography category of the Parklands Art Prize & won the Dawn Slade-Faull Award



## **Michael Mogg '03**

Michael and Glessee are eagerly anticipating the arrival of a baby boy in 2024, who will be a wonderful addition to their family and a new sibling for Bjorn.

## Feature in **INSPIRED**

Send us your news of engagements, marriages, births or career success and be featured in the next issue of our alumni magazine.

[marketing@cardijn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:marketing@cardijn.catholic.edu.au)



# Old Collegians Sport

The Cardijn Old Collegians had an exceptional year in 2023. From struggling in 2021 to being relegated in 2022, not many expected the turnaround we experienced this year.

We started the year determined to rebuild the culture and on-field performance we worked so hard to develop initially. A strong preseason with a focus on events and developing a mentality geared toward improvement set a strong foundation for what was a fantastic year for the Old Cols.

After a strong preseason and a wealth of new talent to fill out three squads, all three grades came firing out of the gates from the beginning of the season proper. Our As and

Bs both dominated the leagues early on and our Cs, with a new coach and strategic direction, put on a strong performance too. As the season progressed, a few setbacks with injuries and availability required our playing squads to dig deep and they responded with grit, determination and a desire to do the badge proud. Two league titles (As and Bs on the LAST match day) and a top half finish for our Cs was our reward and we couldn't be prouder of our playing group this year.

A huge shout-out not only to our committed playing group but also our committee and coaching staff. It was a club effort this year.

We look forward to our return to

Division 2 in 2024! As always, we are looking to recruit players for next season, so please follow us on our socials for details on our upcoming preseason.



To commemorate  
**Cardijn's 40th Anniversary**  
we are excited to announce  
a special collection of merchandise.

*As we approach Cardijn College's 40-year anniversary, it is essential to keep your contact details up to date to stay informed about the upcoming festivities. Anticipate an array of exciting events, merchandise for sale, and a host of other surprises in store. This milestone anniversary promises to be a celebration like no other, and you won't want to miss out on the chance to reconnect with old classmates and create lasting memories.*

Update your contact details here:

<https://www.cardijn.catholic.edu.au/community/old-scholars>

